



Bowling Green State University

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GREEK IMPROVEMENT GROUP

The **Greek Improvement Group (G!G)** was created in the summer of 2006 by the Office of Residence Life/Greek Affairs. G!G is the result of a two year research project, initiated by a Greek House Director, which studied, developed, tested, and evaluated innovative methods that could potentially assist university fraternity and sorority members in achieving and sustaining the overall 2.5 GPA required to be a Greek at Bowling Green.

G!G has three major goals:

1. To identify Greek students, residing in university owned housing, who currently have cumulative or most recent previous semester GPA's below Greek (2.5) and or University (2.0) academic standards. G!G classifies these students as being "at-risk" for losing, at the very minimum, Greek privileges and, in the most serious cases, the opportunity to continue their studies at Bowling Green.
2. To provide outreach services, such as counseling and advising, to these "at-risk" Greeks, so as to help them accept and overcome their challenges to reach and maintain the academic standards they agreed to when they became Greek.
3. To maintain residential environments in university owned Greek housing units which adhere to university community living standards and enhance the potential for academic success for all residents regardless of GPA.

The Greek Improvement Group is a variation on the Freshman Interest Group model employed at hundreds of university across the country. Future plans are to expand the program to include all at-risk Greeks regardless of where they are housed and to create smaller mentor driven learning communities based on participants' academic courses.

The G!G consists of Greeks who are academically at-risk; Greek House Directors, who advise those participants living in their residences; Chapter academic Faculty advisors; Chapter Scholarship chairs; and a G!G Advisory Board comprised of Greek Affairs administrators, the Greek Graduate Assistant for Scholarship Issues, and the Scholarship chairs from the fraternity and sorority governing councils.

MISSION STATEMENT

THE GREEK IMPROVEMENT GROUP WILL WORK TOGETHER TO IDENTIFY, ADVISE, AND ASSIST GREEK COMMUNITY MEMBERS LIVING IN GREEK HOUSING TO REACH AND SUSTAIN STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH THEIR CHAPTERS AND THE OFFICE OF GREEK AFFAIRS.

GOALS

TO CREATE A CULTURE OF ACADEMIC URGENCY FOR THOSE MEMBERS WHO FACE CHALLENGES ACHIEVING GREEK ACADEMIC STANDARDS

TO DEVELOP A RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENT CONDUSIVE TO ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMEMENT

OBJECTIVES

CREATE AN ACADEMIC BRAINTRUST WITHIN EACH CHAPTER USING EXISTING LEADERSHIP

IDENTIFY AND OUTREACH TO MEMBERS IN RESIDENCE WHO NEED ASSISTANCE IN ATTAINING PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO GPA STANDARDS

ASSIST CHAPTERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WRITTEN ACADEMIC STANDARDS

ASSIST CHAPTERS IN CREATING PEER DRIVEN ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Greek Improvement Group (G!G)

Program Responsibilities and Timeline for Implementation

August, 2006

GHS Responsibilities:

1. Advises Chapter on which students in residence in Greek housing are academically at-risk.
2. Assists Chapter and participants in developing a sense of urgency for supporting those students who are on University academic sanction. Oversees closer monitoring for these students and makes them a priority. Educates Scholarship chair (SC), Faculty advisor (FA), President (CP), and Chapter advisor (CA) with understanding program goals.
3. Monitors chapter on implementation of and accountability for class attendance verification sheet. Collects from Scholarship chair a copy of each participant's class syllabus (for all classes) to determine attendance requirements. Compares requirements to actual at-risk student's record post Fall Break and at the end of the semester.
4. Facilitates and monitors all in house programs.
5. Reports progress at GHS staff meetings as required by Greek Affairs.

Greek Scholarship G.A. Lipine's Program Responsibilities

6. Oversees implementation of program by individual chapter GHS.
7. Assists chapters who need an academic manual. Insures that the Scholarship chair and Faculty advisor work diligently on this project.
8. At a minimum a plan of action for each at risk member should be secured in writing from each SC by Lopine. Lopine should develop incentives and penalties for chapters and get them approved by his direct supervisor.
9. Lipine should urge Chapter advisors to solicit parental involvement. Chapter advisor should be contact person for parents.

Scholarship Chairs and Faculty Advisors' Responsibilities

10. Meets with each student identified as being at risk.
11. At initial meeting: asks what extra curricular activities at risk students participate in? Asks what courses that the student feels will be the most challenging and why. Asks each student to waive confidentiality so that parents can be involved. Asks each student to critique his or her performance last semester and overall. For example, why do they think things have not gone well during those times they have not gone well?
12. Develops a class attendance verification form for use by at-risk students.
13. Collects each at risk students' class attendance record on a weekly basis.
14. Assists students on improving time management. Asks them to consider keeping a journal of how they spend their time.

15. Collects a copy of each participant's class syllabus (for all classes) to determine attendance requirements. Compares requirements to actual at-risk student's record. Provides copy of attendance records to Faculty advisor and GHS
16. Collects mid term grades for evaluation by CP, GHS, FA, CA
17. SC and FA should communicate as needed. SC will routinely brief CP who briefs GHS at their weekly meeting.

Fall 2006 Timeline

1. **Prior to Training Week.** Rob completes all G!G training documents. Meets with Kevin Lipine, Gordy, and Ron to set up accountability for activities.
2. **Wed. Aug. 2nd.** GHSers meet chapter advisors at picnic. Ron mentions program at picnic and tells advisors they can expect GHSers to contact them by the Friday before Labor Day.
3. **Tues. Aug. 8th.** Rob reinforces goals and outcomes at GHS Dinner. With Gordy, outlines expectations for completion of tasks.
4. **By Wed. Aug. 23rd.** All GHSers meet with Chapter Presidents and Scholarship chairs to garner both investment in program and to set up "big five" meeting (chapter advisor-CA, faculty advisor- FA, chapter president-CP, scholarship chair-SC, and GHS).
5. **By Fri. Aug. 25th.** GHS emails CA, FA, CP, and SC to solicit meeting to occur in next week.
6. **By Friday, Sept. 1st** Big Five agree on date time and place and meet.
7. **Week of Sept. 4th.** Big Five meet. At this meeting GHSers provide handouts and reviews plan with team. Also at this meeting Scholarship chairs are handed the ball with instructions to keep Big Five informed on a weekly basis. Big Five agree to collectively address Chapter at a future meeting.
8. **Week of Sept. 11th.** Scholarship chairs and GHS meet with all at-risk participants. Plan is explained and investment in program secured by written contract. Individual appointments are arranged at this meeting
9. **Week of Sept. 18th.** SC and GHS together meet one on one with each at-risk participant.
10. **By Friday, Sept. 29th.** SC and GHS meet with Faculty advisor to review program progress to date and to set timeframe for production of scholarship manual (if needed). The Big Five should have met with Chapter to explain program at a regularly scheduled meeting by this deadline.
11. **Weekly.** Reports from SC to CP who reports to GHS at their weekly meeting. GHS and CP should report their progress and outcomes at each respective weekly meeting with Greek administration. Scholarship reports, from each GHS, should become an agenda item at each weekly GHS meeting.
12. **Week of Oct. 23rd.** Big Five disseminate Mid-term grade reports.
13. **Week of Oct. 30th.** GHS and SC meet with each participant to review progress and adjust plan for remainder of semester.
14. **Nov. and Dec.** Continue weekly reporting at all levels.
15. **End of Semester.** Grade reports are analyzed. Evaluation of program. Planning for next semester.
16. **January, 2007.** Spring G!G begins.